

**Minutes
West Lafayette Historic Preservation Commission
Morton Community Center
222 N. Chauncey Avenue
West Lafayette, IN 47906
February 9, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 6:13 p.m. by Chris Kulesza, President, who presided.

Present: Peter Bunder, Erin Britton, Chris Kulesza, Chandler Poole, Arnold Sweet, Kurt Wahl, Persis Newman

Absent: Kelly Busch, Susan Curtis, Linda Martin, Jim Sondgeroth,

Chris Kulesza requested a change to the December 8, 2015 meeting minutes. All commissioners approved the change as well as the December 8, 2015 minutes unanimously.

President Kulesza asked to make an amendment to the agenda. He asked that the COA Application for 218 Littleton Drive be before the bylaw discussion. This was consented to unanimously.

COA Application 281 Littleton Drive

Mr. Poole stated that the City has had one COA Application come through. The COA sub-committee met on February 2, 2016. It's for the property located at 281 Littleton Drive. This is currently a rental and the new ownership would like to renovate the entire interior and bump out a dormer in the back of the home. Attached to the packet are photos to see what it looks like now and what it will look like. They will also be re-roofing the garage. This will remain a 3 bedroom and 3 bedroom rental. The sub-group voted unanimously to approve the COA and to come to the Commission for formal approval. Adam Cohen, the owner and Scott Brown, the contractor are here to answer questions.

Commissioner Bunder stated that the sub-committee liked this application.

No public comment.

Commissioner Bunder moved to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness Sub-Committee's recommendation. Commissioner Sweet seconded. All approved.

Bylaw Discussion

President Kulesza thanked Susan, Arnold and Persis for all of their comments regarding the rough draft. He'd like everyone to take a look at them over the next month and vote on them at the next meeting. A couple of things to discuss is that there is now a sub-committee or a committee that would be set up to review properties to be put into new historic preservation districts. It would be a standing study committee who's duty would be to look specifically at this. They would also inform the public about what we do regarding historic preservation.

Beyond that it's routine and not much different than what we're currently doing. The agenda will have to be approved by President Kulesza before it gets sent out.

President Kulesza did bring up the appeal board. It's something he doesn't like. There was some consideration about whether or not it's even legal. State law gives power to the City Council, the Historic Preservation Commissions and the Courts. It doesn't mention anything about an appeals board. Commissioner Bunder stated that if you want to try to take it out, it can be taken out. It's in there because it matched Lafayette and made the Council happy. Commissioner Britton asked what the alternative was if it's taken out. President Kulesza stated that any appeal would go straight to the Courts. With the appeals board, there are some political actors that are on the appeals board and that overturned the appeals board. It doesn't mention the appeals board. President Kulesza hasn't ran that by Eric Burns.

President Kulesza just asked that everyone look at the bylaws and we'll do a full vote next month. This is just a formal presentation.

Commissioner Sweet asked in the National Historic Places Registration Form that is downloaded from the State. There are 54 contributing and 3 non-contributing. There are 3 houses that didn't mean that standard. He questioned that if they're a non-contributing house, do they need to file a COA if they're going to change their house? The Commission stated that as long as they are within the district they'll be required to file a COA.

Staff Report

Mr. Poole's update came along with the COA. There have been a couple of mentions regarding remodeling in the Historic District, but nothing has been filed to-date.

Mr. Wahl stated he received a flyer for Preserving Historic Places, Indiana's Statewide Historic Preservation Conference in Vincennes this year on April 26 through the 29. Online registration is open February 1-15. Mr. Poole stated we need to talk to Peter Gray about some funds in order to send someone to this conference. The cost is \$150 for the conference. There is a CAMP (Commissioner Assistance Mentoring Program) seminar on the 28th at this meeting. Commissioner Britton asked if these types of conferences are usually this time of year. Mr. Wahl stated that they were.

Public Comment – None.

All approved to adjourn. Adjourned at 7:29.

Kelly Busch, Secretary